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For Immediate Release

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**State and Local Health Departments Conduct
Lake County Health Behavior Survey**

Beginning September 9, and for at least one month after that, interviewers from Northern Illinois University will be telephoning households in Lake County. The Illinois Department of Public Health in cooperation with the Lake County Health Department/Community Health Center is conducting a health behavior study of adults 18 years of age and older who live in Lake County. In order to assure a random sample, the survey procedure includes a selection protocol to choose one adult in a household to be interviewed.

If you are called, the Health Department encourages your participation. The survey findings will assist staff to strategically allocate tax dollar resources toward Lake County specific health needs. The Health Department's Community Health Assessment program will produce a summary report based on the survey statistics provided by Northern Illinois University.

People are sometimes uncertain how to tell whether a telephone call is a legitimate

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survey. If the telephone call is for a legitimate survey, the caller should be willing to tell you where he or she is calling from, who is sponsoring the survey, and where you can get further information. If you are telephoned and have any questions or concerns, talk them over with the person calling. If you have been selected for the Illinois Department of Public Health survey, you will be provided, upon request, with a toll-free number for Northern Illinois University so you can verify the origin of the telephone call. All of the information obtained in the survey will be kept confidential; everyone's answers will be combined to give the local health department information about the health of people in Lake County. Questions about the study may be directed to the Illinois Department of Public Health (<http://app.idph.state.il.us/brfss/contactus.asp>) at (217) 785-1064 or to Northern Illinois University at (815) 753-0950.

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